

The Missionary Helper.

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FREE BAPTIST WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

MOTTO: *Faith and Works Win.*

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No. 4.

Set the Easter lilies whitely
On the altar if you will,
Let the incense, lifting lightly,
All the aisles and arches fill;
But remember, O beloved,
Best memorials of praise—
Hearts that feel new life upspringing,
Joyful prayers to heaven winging,
Lives that serve Him all the days.

IN the blessed duality of life every attribute has its corresponding quality; every thought, expression; action, its reaction; cause, its sequence; message, its response—possibly unknown, unheard, unseen, because of blinded eyes, or blunted sensibilities, or hearts skeptical of joy. Perhaps this law appears like a curse because it is perverted by the wrong quality, thought, or act; or it seems unavailing because the right thought is followed by one out of tune or on a tangent.

Not until blessing grows monotonous will thankfulness cease to be its mate; not until receiving is a burden can it be divorced from giving. Wealth of spiritual and material sunshine means answering largess of joy; God's message in book and nature and soul silence calls for responsive prayer; the divine Leader, earthly followers; the unlimited sacrifice, an absolute surrender; the triumphant resurrection, the banished fear of death. Should not the Christian's life move as perfectly to laws of heavenly attraction as the pendulum to laws of earthly gravitation? . . . A perfect friendship typifies what, in large measure, may be the soul's relation to Christ—joy for joy, giving for giving, sacrifice for sacrifice, life for life—not as in bonds of duty, but in the freedom of love which "gives itself wholly and is wholly free."

To the Presbyterian Woman's Board of New York, in a regular meeting on Jan. 29, came the inspiration to start a petition which should voice the sentiment of the united Woman's Foreign Missionary Societies in regard to the cruel posi-

tion of the unfortunate women of Armenia. "It was determined that we should not only continue to speak to God earnestly in their behalf, but it was time to speak to man also. It was urged that in a day of martyrdoms we ought to put ourselves on record as against the slayer and with them who suffer, many of them worthily, for the name of Christ." And so the petition was formulated and the telegrams asking, "Will you unite with us?" sent out to various denominational boards. "Yes," and "Gladly," and "With all our hearts," came swift responses from all parts of the country. On Feb. 4 the petition, approved by fourteen branches of the Christian church, was forwarded to the President of the United States. It was an appeal that the chief executive would "interpose, if possible, for the protection of those Christian women who may yet survive, and for the alleviation of their sufferings," and it expressed the protest and sympathy of over five hundred thousand American women in behalf of their Armenian sisters.

WORKING NOTES.—Miss Lizzie Moody, general organizer for the West, in twenty-one days recently attended 45 meetings, gave 11 missionary addresses, 3 A. C. F. talks, 4 talks to children, 7 informal talks, organized 5 societies, secured 15 subscriptions to the HELPER, sold 5 Manuals, made 30 calls, wrote 25 letters and postals, and traveled 1071 miles. Are any comments necessary? . . . Mrs. Dexter, children's secretary for N. E., is planning many pleasant and helpful things for the children, which we hope will be given to HELPER readers before long. The juniors of her own church recently gave an entertainment which made it possible for them to take five shares in Miss Barnes's salary. Work for the children grows wider and brighter. . . . Another cause for thankfulness is the number of auxiliaries formed since General Conference. Some have reported through the HELPER. Others that are actively at work have failed to do so. Please promptly report each new organization, so that it may be announced in these pages. Word comes from Alton, N. H., "We have organized an auxiliary with 18 members and more to follow. Have 5 new subscriptions to the HELPER besides renewing the old ones." . . . It is pleasant to be assured that Michigan women were gratified with the March number. One writes from Reading, "I feel sure that now we have seen Dr. Mary face to face we shall do better work for her support and for the dear, ever indispensable HELPER." . . . A faithful friend of the society in Kansas, in sending a formal report, adds, "Although it is not much, it represents as loyal a band of workers as their circumstances will admit. We are all suffering from the hard times and have to do so much for home work, but we can do a little." If women everywhere would do as much according to their ability, with the same loving persistence, as a little band of Kansas women, there would be no lack of money or results. God multiplies the cheerful gift, accompanied by faith.



God

Willeth

A

Cheerful

Giver.

THAT THANK-OFFERING.

BY SUSAN A. PORTER.

THE inspiration that came to the board of managers of the Woman's Missionary Society at their annual meeting at Brooklyn in '90, regarding a thank-offering, has proved a valuable endowment, a blessing indeed to the work and the workers.

It has been said that fellowship with God begets gratitude for his blessings, and that gratitude for his blessings promotes fellowship with him, and so it has come about that a far greater than financial blessing has been the fruit of our annual offering. It has caused the heart of our sisterhood to burn with a deeper love and devotion for Him whose offering in our behalf was no less than the Son of God. It has stirred up by way of remembrance some who had well-nigh forgotten their great debt to him. By multiplying the givers it has multiplied the prayers for the cause, the interest in the work. It has set hearts to studying out new plans for promoting the kingdom of Christ, and set many hands to work in the grand cause of giving Christ to *all* the world. Moreover, under the blessing of God, it has tided us over several crises in these recent times of financial distress, and promptly met all appropriations as they have been increased from year to year.

It is a source of rejoicing that the time of this annual offering is so eagerly anticipated, hearts seeming to long for it as for a time of spiritual refreshing, and it is a fact not without significance that the season of its coming is when all nature is vocal with praise and thanksgiving.

Now that the time is approaching for our offering of '96 let us one and all make ready, see that our own gift is at hand for the King of kings. By the way, we want very carefully to study that word "gift," lest we offer to God only what is his own. If, as we believe, one-tenth of our income belongs to him, we need to be careful not to insult him by offering any portion of that *as a gift*, but make sure that he has that which is his right, then generously, cheerfully, gratefully make ready the tangible thank-offering together with the offering of praise and thanksgiving that is due his blessed name. Like "Thanksgiving Ann," let us carefully plan so long in advance that the gift shall be worthy of the gratitude we owe him, and not a reproach to our thoughtlessness or selfishness.

Then, in arranging our public meeting, let us make it as attractive as possible. Different methods have been suggested from time to time in the HELPER. Sometimes it is made a parlor reception, sometimes a church affair, occasionally light refreshments are served in some ample home. Flowers and music should not fail to lend their attractions, but most prominent of all should be the devotional element. Prayer and praise, praise and prayer, let them rise ardently to the Giver of every good and perfect gift.

"Bring an offering to the Master. What beloved, shall it be?
 Worthy of His wondrous kindness who has given all to thee?
 Bring thy best, for he is kingly. Bring thy offering full and free.
 Thou canst never match his bounty, for he gave his life for thee."

Harper's Ferry, W. Va.

BRING IN MY TITHES.

BRING in my tithes, the Lord hath said;
 Let plenty in my house be found,
 And I will bless your store of bread,
 And make your oil and wine abound.

Bring in your tithes, let God be tried;
 Give me my share of every good;
 And I will throw heaven's windows wide,
 And pour you blessings like a flood.

Bring in the tithes of hearts and hands,
 Of toil and skill, of tongue and pen,
 The love that flies at thy commands,
 The strength that lifts the load from men.

Bring in the tithes of prayer and praise,
 Bring all for God, and ye shall prove,
 With grateful joy through all your days,
 My glorious power, my boundless love.

OUR FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

BY S. C. G. AVERY, CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

WE are told it is through "line upon line, precept upon precept, here a little and there a little," that facts are fastened upon the memory, and the same truths in new dress and environment need to be constantly presented, that they may find lodgment in the heart and become part of the education of the average reader.

To Mrs. D. F. Smith we may fittingly apply the words of Prov. 31: 10-31. In August, 1852, a young bride, she, with her husband, sailed for India in obedience to our Lord's last command. In 1872 her husband was taken from labor to reward. Since that time, excepting occasional visits to America for rest and recuperation, her whole life has been spent in that darkened land, where she has won the respect and esteem of all who become acquainted with her work and life. For many years she has had charge of the Girls' Orphanage, which in 1886 was moved from Jellasore to Balasore. A donation from the late Rev. J. L. Sinclair of New Hampshire made it possible to purchase and fit up a building

for the Orphanage, now called Sinclair Orphanage and occupied in 1888. Here, by precept and example, she is sowing good seed, the fruit of which eternity alone will reveal.

Miss Hattie P. Phillips (daughter of Rev. Jeremiah Phillips, one of our pioneer missionaries) graduated from Hillsdale College, Mich., in 1868. After teaching nine years in the city schools of Chicago she sailed for India in October, 1878, and has rendered efficient service in different lines of mission work. She is now stationed at Balasore, with the Hindu day schools, work for Christian children, temperance, and Sunday-schools under her care, making her life a very busy one.

Miss Emelie Barnes, the children's missionary, was born in Twickenham, England; but her only home since babyhood has been in the United States. She enjoyed the discipline of Hillsdale College, took the two years' course in Moody's Bible Institute, filling all her spare moments with practical Christian work. She is now in Balasore, busy learning the Oriya language, and assisting in the sewing department of the school at Sinclair Orphanage. During the cold season last year, she, with Miss J. J. Scott, went into the villages outside of Balasore, some of them forty-two miles away, selling Gospels, giving tracts, telling the story of Jesus to many who had never heard it before, praying God to bless the seed sown and give the increase.

Miss J. J. Scott has been associated with our mission at Balasore for the last two or three years, and has done faithful work with the girls in the Orphanage and among the zenana women in their homes.

Miss Beebee Phillips (eldest daughter of Dr. J. L. Phillips and granddaughter of Rev. Jeremiah Phillips) was sent by the Woman's Board to Balasore last fall as a kindergarten missionary. She has taken great pains to fit herself for this important work, and, as we look forward to her future, let us pray that the mantle of her sainted father may fall upon her, and she be used in the hands of God to mold the lives and characters of those under her care into the image of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Mary W. Bachelor, M.D., of Midnapore (daughter of Dr. O. R. Bachelor a missionary veteran), was born in New Hampton, N. H., and from her early girlhood was associated with mission work. When very young she taught regularly in Mohammedan homes, trained native teachers, and superintended zenana work. In 1883 she came to America, and, after taking a thorough course in medicine, returned to Midnapore as a medical missionary, where she is seeking to lead sin-sick souls to the Great Physician while treating the physical ills of her patients.

Miss Ella M. Butts, a native of Maine, graduated from the High School in

Lewiston, spent two years in Europe, and on her return taught French and German in New Hampton Institute from 1875 to 1886; the last three years she was preceptress. Having consented to go to India as a representative of the Woman's Missionary Society, she sailed in October, 1886, and is located at Midnapore, as principal of the woman's department of the Bible School, doing noble service training workers for God. Miss Lavina C. Coombs, another of Maine's daughters, was educated in Litchfield Academy, Farmington Normal School, and Lewiston High School. After teaching several years in her native state, she was sent as a missionary to India, by the Woman's Board, in 1882. She also was stationed at Midnapore, and took charge of zenana work and ragged schools in that place. After eleven years of faithful service she returned to this country for a much needed rest. Last fall she went back to Midnapore to tell the gospel story to those sitting in darkness.

Dear sisters, these are our representatives. Through them we are obeying Jesus's last command. Shall we not give them our sympathy, our prayers, our money, to enable them to successfully prosecute the work given into their hands?

Alton, N. H.

Notes from private letters from India.—A postal card, dated Feb. 8, from Miss Barnes, gives a pleasant glimpse of her work: "The month of January I spent in evangelistic work with the Bible women in and around Bhudruck. We visited many Hindu villages, and told something of Christ and his love to many. Have just received my box from America, and have to thank many children and others for sending cards, picture books, patchwork, and other useful things for the work. I want them to know that all is received and appreciated. Miss Hattie Phillips, Miss Gaunce, and I are now on our way to Calcutta to attend the Missionary Convention. It is my first trip outside our mission since I came, now over two years." Miss Barnes promises a letter for the juniors very soon. . . . Miss Beebee Phillips writes from Balasore: "I reached here the last day of January at midnight. I shall study Oriya three months before beginning work in the kindergarten. I wish I had time now to tell you how much I am enjoying my India. It seems so good to be back, and especially to have the dear little mother as near as Calcutta. It was so hard to leave her, but I hope she can spend the rainy season here with me. She is writing papa's life, with Aunt Nellie's help. I hope it may be a book which will prove a great blessing to many." . . . Dr. Helen Phillips, in an interesting communication from Calcutta, dated Feb. 12, of which HELPER readers will hear later, says: "I am spending a few days in Calcutta for the W. C. T. U. Convention, etc. Mary [Mrs. James Phillips] is very hard worked, but keeps up wonderfully. We are looking for Mr. Stiles in a few days."

SOME BENEFITS OF THE THANK-OFFERING.

BY LAURA A. DEMERITTE, TREASURER.

Necessity is the mother of many of our sweetest experiences. This is especially true of the thank-offering. The observance began with the Woman's Missionary Society of the Rhode Island Association. A year later the General Society, in the midst of an emergency, adopted the plan for that special need. But the year's experience brought such satisfactory results in many ways that the society voted to make it a regular part of our work in the month of May.

A HELP FINANCIALLY.

Financially it has been a very great help, because without it we should have had a yearly deficit during the recent hard times. For two years the thank-offering has amounted to more than \$700 each year. What shall it be this year? If our offering in money keeps pace with our blessings for twenty-two years—never failing—we shall have a large one, and our growing needs demand it.

The returns thus far this year do not indicate that we are awake to the fact that our work is increasing—a new missionary in the field, a new department of work, the kindergarten, a loud call from India for another missionary, and the widows' home. Let us pray earnestly that our Father will open hearts to give thankfully and abundantly as unto him, at the time of our May thank-offering.

A HELP SPIRITUALLY.

Organizations degenerate into mere machines unless they are constantly invigorated with spiritual life. Prayers and gifts "in His name" increase this life. Had we more of such prayers and gifts, our treasury would be better filled, there would be more of the divine wisdom manifest in our plans, and more human strength to carry them out. O that every auxiliary East and West, and churches without auxiliaries, would make a real thank-offering of prayers and gifts unto the Lord in the month of May!

Who will observe it? A review of past years shows that Massachusetts has observed the thank-offering better than any other state. The states nearest Massachusetts observe it better than other states—New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Why cannot the influence of Massachusetts reach to the "regions beyond"? What shall the record be? Shall we not receive \$1500 as a thank-offering this year, coming from Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and so on to the farthest Western states, as the "Lord hath prospered us." Can the Woman's Missionary Society receive this, with the regular contributions the same as last year, all the yearly appropriations will be met, and another missionary, who is now willing to go, can be sent this fall. "Faith and works" will "win."

"CHRISTIAN principles and morality are best illustrated by example."

THANKFULNESS FOR ADVANCEMENT.

BY MARY R. WADE, PRESIDENT MAINE W. M. S.

"FAITH and works win." So says our motto, and so also has it been proved by our Woman's Missionary Society. From small beginnings, step by step, trusting in the promise, "Lo, I am with you alway," has the society worked onward, making advancement here and there, putting new missionaries into the field, as God prospered them with means, adding to their number of Bible women, zenana teachers, ragged schools, and recently sending to India Miss Beebee Phillips as kindergarten missionary, a new department of our work; and in all these years it has not sent a short remittance. Do we appreciate what great things God has done for us? As the years come and go, and our blessings are renewed and fresh ones added, not only in our Woman's Missionary Society; but in our individual homes, our churches, and our dear denomination, is it not a privilege, as well as duty, to offer to Him some special token of our gratitude and love? Let us then, my dear sisters, make a grand rally all along the line for our thank-offering in May, so the result will show that we are in truth thankfully appreciative, and that we may have the joy of knowing that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Dover, Me.

THANKS TO GOD FOR "THE MISSIONARY HELPER."

BY EMELINE BURLINGAME-CHENEY.

THE MISSIONARY HELPER is the child of need and foresight. Scattered auxiliaries were working without unified purpose because there was no medium of communication. It was easy to foresee that missionary work would require knowledge, organized effort, and mutual conference, such as can only come through a printed medium. So the MISSIONARY HELPER was born, mothered by Mrs. Marilla Marks Brewster, carefully nursed by a publication committee of devoted women, and lovingly cared for by another company of women, each of whom had five dollars in her pocket ready to pay on call rather than let the youthful HELPER suffer.

Once in two months it made its visits, but it was so cordially welcomed that, after a season, its good friends decided that a monthly visit would be even more valued. It became an education to women at home and in mission circles; it taught the children in Sunday school concerts and in bands.

When Mrs. Brewster heard a call to other duties the writer took pen in hand, and the work went on. The years of missionary education had now broadened the workers so that they wanted more systematic culture, and lessons and exercises for monthly meetings were introduced. From the heights already

reached new glimpses were obtained of the mission of Christ on earth. As a result a new department was introduced, "Practical Christian Living," which sought to inculcate the thought that nothing which affects any human being in body, soul, or estate is outside the pale of Christian missions.

Then the pen began to move slowly in the editor's hands, and with the consciousness that, having done the best she could, her work was over in that office, she gladly greeted the bright young face of her whom she saw approaching to sit in the editor's chair.

Of the bright, crisp, up-with-the-times work that is being done for the *HELPER* no words are needed. The magazine speaks for itself. It ought to speak to five thousand subscribers. It will when enough women earnestly say it shall. Whatever changes await our denominational work in the near or far future, long live the *MISSIONARY HELPER*.

Pawtuxet, R. I.

THE AMSDEN MISSION CLUB.

BY CHEERFUL WORKS.

III.

A stormy winter's day, not long after the missionary prayer-meeting, was drawing to a close. The snow had piled high against the panes of my study window. The fire was burning brightly on the hearth. Tired of work, I dropped my pen and turned towards it with a steady gaze, which set me dreaming over a half-formed plan regarding a missionary society. All the pleasant possibilities rushed into my mind, and the workers trooped before me in enthusiastic interest, with Mrs. Keene as leader. Suddenly my thought was arrested by a knock at the door, and in answer to my welcome she entered the room. The presence of her cheery face and warm-hearted personality was greeted with unfeigned gladness.

Without waiting to take the proffered seat she said, "Come, stop your dreaming and go home with me. It is too all-alone for you here, and I have much to say to you."

Without questioning I followed her. When we were settled in her spacious library, and the growing darkness was shutting out the world, she commenced her talk by saying, "Why can we not have a mission club in our church?"

"A mission club! what do you mean?" said I.

"Simply this: there are Monday clubs, Saturday and social clubs, why not mission clubs?"

"But would you have them independent of other missionary organizations?"

"O, certainly not! Could we not call it a mission club, auxiliary to the F.

B. Woman's Missionary Society, of which Miss Grand gave so good a description the other evening?"

I thought a moment, and replied, "The idea is entirely new; it savors a little of the world, but I am not sure but it is all right."

"O you ministers! If you only knew a little more what is going on in the world, and had some of its wisdom, you could do more for it. We want a wide-awake, interesting missionary society. Let us have a name that suggests just that."

This was said in a most good-natured fashion, but, seeing my face lengthen, she came over to where I was sitting, and, touching me gently on the cheek, said, "Do not be grieved, for you do have a good sprinkling of worldly wisdom with your strong love of nature, and it is a shame to talk so."

And yet I knew she meant it all, and was trying to soothe me, as a mother would her child. Even now I often recall those words, and see more and more how true it is that ministers often do not know enough about real life for their calling's sake.

So it was agreed that we should have a mission club in the F. B. church in Amsden.

At her request I secured, of the Woman's Missionary Society, a form of constitution and by-laws for a local auxiliary, and the following Sabbath she invited all the people, young and old, interested in denominational work, to meet her in the lecture room of the church the next Thursday evening, adding, "We need a mission club in this church for educational purposes, and we want to make it as interesting as a literary club is supposed to be. Why not? Come one and all and help in organizing it."

Where Mrs. Keene proposed in real earnest to go it was very natural the people should follow, and so on the following Thursday evening the lecture room was well filled with the people of the parish. Mrs. Keene called the meeting to order, stated in detail the character of the club she wished to organize, and then invited others to express their opinions on the matter. To my surprise, I found the interest in such an organization much greater than I had supposed. Before this informal meeting had closed they agreed to meet in one week and organize a society, to be called the "Amsden Mission Club," auxiliary to the F. B. Woman's Missionary Society, the object being to educate for missionary purposes, to aid the Woman's Missionary Society financially, and also to support the pastor in her efforts to interest the people in general denominational work.

I went home with a glad heart, feeling I was no longer the principal factor in missionary work, but henceforth could take a like place in missions as pastor to that I did in Sunday-school or young people's work.

IV.

The next Thursday evening the "Amsden Mission Club" was formally organized, by adopting a constitution, electing officers, and securing members. Mrs. Keene was elected president; Mr. Robie, a philanthropic gentleman in the village, vice-president; a high school girl recording secretary; the physician of whom I have already spoken, treasurer; and a program committee of five, of whom the president was chairman, was appointed. Significant of the future of the club was the fact that this business meeting closed with several earnest prayers for God's blessing and guidance in its work.

The first thing of a general character which it did was to observe the thank-offering of the Woman's Society. The mite boxes which I attempted to distribute at the "call to prayer" service were very generally taken as soon as the society was started. The thank-offering was announced through letters of invitation furnished by the Woman's Missionary Society, and offering envelopes were put in the pews of the church for those not having the mite boxes who might wish them.

One afternoon, a week before the time of the service, Mrs. Keene came to my study, evidently for a purpose, as it was written very plainly on her face. After the usual friendly salutation I said, "Well, what is it?"

"Don't you think we ought to tell the people what we are going to do with this thank-offering?"

"Why, Mrs. Keene, don't they already know that it will go to the Woman's Missionary Society?"

"That is not it. Would they not be more interested if they knew the offering is to be used for a special work?"

I smiled audibly over the materialism which could not make a thank-offering unto the Lord without inquiring what was to be done with it. Instantly my worldly wise friend knew her pastor's thought, and replied, as though I had spoken my objection aloud, "True, it is a thank-offering unto the Lord, but the money will be used for human beings, and the Lord knows we have a right to say whether it shall be used to buy peanuts for the Hottentots, or to take care of a parent-forsaken child in India."

Again I was confronted with the fact that pastors' ideals have sometimes to yield to the practical ideas of their people, and so humbly submitted to the inevitable by saying, "Well, what do you want to have done with this thank-offering?"

"I want the club to decide what shall be done with it, but I would like to suggest some things."

"What?" said I.

"By reading the MISSIONARY HELPER I find that our state society supports a missionary in India. Why should not some of this offering go to her? And then the state is also interested in the domestic science department in Storer College. Why not a part to this?"

"What proportion to each, Mrs. Keene?"

"I should say two-thirds to the missionary and one-third to the science department."

I meekly assented. As she arose to go she added, "Sometime I want to talk with you about our club, preparatory to the fall and winter work."

The evening of the thank-offering was lovely; Mrs. Keene's parlors, where the service was held, were beautifully decorated with wild flowers and evergreen, which the young people had furnished; the exercises, consisting of prayers, songs of praise, an original thank-offering story, and the collection and opening of envelopes and mite boxes, were listened to by a very interested audience, and the service from the beginning to the end, breathed the spirit of thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father for all his goodness to us, and of sympathetic interest in those who are shut out from Christian influence. The offering, on which God's blessing was asked in the interests of the special objects for which it was to be used, amounted to \$5c. Thus closed the first thank-offering, and fairly opened the missionary work of the Free Baptist church in Amsden. This was only the beginning, and I looked forward with intense interest to the time when Mrs. Keene should lay before me her plans for future work, which I knew would be both original and interesting.

(To be continued.)

THANKS.

OUR thanks are due to the individuals who have by their generous gifts made it possible for us to pay our bills for the quarter just closed, and also for Mrs. Miner's return passage. The quarter's experience has emphasized the need of the "emergency women." Your treasurer, by the way, is getting a long list of earnest, strong women to whom she intends to write sometime about this emergency plan. It is a so much pleasanter way of asking for gifts from persons who have signified their willingness to give than from those who may feel bored with personal letters from the treasurer, as I have felt obliged to write them during this quarter.

While we have ample cause for thanksgiving, the officers of societies ought to know another fact, and that is that receipts are falling off, because contributions from auxiliaries in some of the states are lessening. It is hoped that contributions as thank-offerings will make up the lack.

TREASURER.



From the field.

THE level plains of these districts [Midnapore and Balasore] are almost treeless, yet the villages are largely embowered in bamboos, which are often arranged in green shady lanes, and there are some pipal, banyan, tamarind, and mango trees, and also a few other kinds. The palms dot the landscape, and sometimes form rows about the water tanks; and the same, or a kind of aloe, are sometimes drawn out in straight lines between the fields. Since the villages average about

three to every two square miles, in looking across the country there is often the appearance at a distance of a continuous line of grove, just as the numerous islands of a bay often seem to be continuous land. Everywhere through the bushy bamboos appear the thatched roofs of the houses. The houses are nearly all made of clay, and thatched with rice straw or coarse grass, but some of the wealthy have brick houses. About two-fifths of the population of the Midnapore district, and nearly two-thirds of that of the Balasore, belong to the agricultural classes. The land is rented at from twenty cents to four dollars per acre.—*Free Baptist Cyclopædia*.

OPENING THE INDIA BOXES.

BALASORE, Jan. 20, 1896.

To the dear, thoughtful friends who contributed to the India boxes, greeting!

A week ago Saturday morning came a letter from Miss Coombs, saying that all the home freight had been cleared, and that for Balasore re-shipped, and would I receive it and do the needful? I knew our weekly steamer was in, so ordered my garry and drove down to its office. The boxes were on the river-bank, and the obliging agent offered to send them up for me. It is the busy season for garries—hauling rice—so it was almost dark when five little garries, one after another, came up with their burdens of boxes, sixteen in all. Miss Coombs's list gave me the numbers of those containing things for the general work, but of course opening them at dark on Saturday evening was not to be thought of, so I merely had them arranged as compactly as possible on the back veranda to wait for Monday morning.

Returning from one of my children's meetings I opened first one and then another of the four intended for the general public. Mother decided to keep out of the way and give me full swing, but somehow the attraction proved too much for her, and she came again and again, declaring at last, that, "so long as she had the spirit of a woman in her, she would *peek*." As the things came out they were sorted according to the names written on the bundles, boxes, parcels, and packages, to say nothing of dollies. All marked for individuals were of course easily disposed of; but after that there remained heaps of things—bags, cards, combs, dollies, needles, thread, thimbles, pictures, papers, patch-work, pieces, pins, pencils, etc., *ad delictum*. These all had to be sorted, and such hours and hours of work as it took to do it! "Ma Phillips" sorted and tied into bundles the cut patchwork, the basted and the sewed, the pieces big enough for garments and those that were not, and got more than one backache in sorting over the children's papers, but she enjoyed it all. The dollies were laid out in rows, and the picture cards sorted according to size and tied in bundles. That job I did myself, and, truly, I haven't been so hungry for some sweet, clean, wholesome babies to hug, kiss, and play with for years as I was after looking at so many pictures of them.

Well, when it was all done, we waited for Saturday afternoon, when we should be more at leisure, and then asked all "our folks" to tea, which was to be followed by a division of the spoils. I am sure you would all have enjoyed looking on and listening to the exclamations and laughter. The wife of our steamer captain was Mrs. Boyer's guest at the time, and was included in the invitation. Mrs. Captain was brought up among the Negroes of the West Indies, and seems to have not a little of their "happy-go-lucky" temperament. She

was soon down on the floor in one corner by herself, having the jolliest sort of a time, putting a jumping jack through all his paces to a rollicking "darkey" time. Soon she spied "such a sweet-faced dollie," for which she offered to pay anything we asked. It was a big one, with soiled green kid boots, which had no doubt been a comfort to some smaller doll-lover over on the other side. Of course she carried off both jack and the dollie—couldn't have her go off broken-hearted! But then—of course you won't mention it—she was not the only one who lost her heart to a doll! The doll-lover of us all has gone to Bhudruck. What ever *would* she have done had she been here! As it was, Miss — chose a wee blonde beauty, with such a wealth of curly golden hair, and declared she was going to keep it, and she actually kissed it over and over again, and wasn't a bit ashamed—though she did blush! Another miss chose one and had it sleep with her, and even Mrs. — confessed to having a little beauty hidden away in her almira, which evidently she hadn't the heart to give away. And I—must I "'fess"? There is a bonnie wee lassie sitting on my writing desk this minute, but alas, alas! The morning after I put her there I came up from *choto hajree*, and when I picked her up to say, "Good morning, Dot!" her poor little legs hung limp and dangling, only held on by her underclothes instead of sticking out straight in front as every sit-down dollie's legs should do, until they are straightened out for her! My ayah declared she hadn't touched her, but, as Crockett says of "Sweet-heart," "I regret to say there are indications of inaccuracies in her statement."

Well, we didn't spend all our time over the dollies and pictures; the rest came in for their full share of attention, the thread, needles, thimbles, and remnants of cloth being most thoroughly appreciated by the heads of industrial departments. There was one good big piece of "turkey red" which I "spoke for," as I have a hankering in my heart to see "Old Glory" now and then, and the only way to get one is to make it.

Now, after telling you all this I wonder if you will think it ungracious of me if I tell you, that, while alone and sorting over the many nice things, certain thoughts kept repeating themselves over and over in my mind to this effect: "What a treat these things would be to the little folks way out on the frontier at home! How these dollies would be loved and cared for, fed, clothed, and 'brought-up'! How the children would revel in these heaps of children's papers and books, which only now and then *one* of the children out here can read, and even then can't understand so as to appreciate! And that comforter—what a thanksgiving would go up from some mother's heart if she had that to tuck around her shivering little ones away off on the prairies!" We are hoping that our kindergartener will be able to teach our little ones here to love dolls, for

I regret to say I have never yet seen a native child show any signs of loving one. I presume it is partly due to the fact that the dolls in color and dress are utterly foreign, and hence seem no part of their life. I wish somebody would manufacture brown dolls that could be dressed like these people, I believe they would "take." But I want to tell you why these thoughts were so much in my mind just now. The very evening before I was unpacking these things I read to mother an article from the *Missionary Review* entitled "The Importance of Frontiers." How I wish you could read the whole of it, but I must give you some bits:

"The loneliness of the women, especially on the great ranches and prairie farms, often leads to insanity and early death. Last winter I had a letter from a friend who keeps a reading-room in the Rocky Mountains. One day a bundle of papers was sent out to leave at the lonely homes on the ranches. A letter came back from one poor woman saying the reading had saved her from suicide. A man writes, 'I am building a church in His name—the first in nine thousand square miles.' One woman does all her sewing with thread she gets from cotton floursacks. A man got a little wool and geared his grindstone to spin it. He gave eight days labor for the church. Little as the people care for the church, under ordinary circumstances, when death comes they like to have a minister. Here is a recent case. A man has traveled twenty-five miles. His horse is bespattered with mud. There are no bridges, the roads are mere trails. He pleads with the missionary to go with him. The missionary is an invalid. He asks, 'How can I go?' 'I have brought a thick strap, and I will buckle it around my waist, and you can hold on, and I will ride slowly over the bad places and through the rivers. We ain't quite heathens, but we are pretty near. I won't ask you to say much, just read a bit and make a prayer,' and away goes our missionary to carry the consolation of God to this stricken family. The wife and mother is dead. The grown-up children are weeping around the coffin. For the first time they hear the words, "Let not your heart be troubled," and beside the grave the triumphant questions and answer of Paul, 'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?' 'Thanks be unto God, who giveth us the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.' They want to know more, and beg for the missionary to stay and tell them about it. Back in the little cabin is the missionary's wife. She has gathered a class, and they are going to have a Christmas tree. Some of them have never heard of such a thing. One young woman wants to know if there is any connection between Christ and Christmas day. 'Why, we keep Christmas day to commemorate his birth.' 'Yes, but there never was any Christ, was there?' 'Where were you born, dear?' Here in this state.' And then for the first time she hears the story of redeeming love. It

is true that eight new churches are built and dedicated for every day in the year, but many of them are built where they are not needed—built, too often, to preach an 'ism,' not the Gospel."

I must not take space for more, but do you wonder my thoughts were away off on the frontier while looking at and handling over your gifts? And now I feel sure you will not think me ungrateful if I say—next time in making up your boxes divide the things, and send to the frontier such as require a knowledge of the English language, and of white people's ways of living in order to appreciate them. I feel sure, too, that anything in the way of bedding and out of date clothing would be most gratefully received.

My letter is already long, but I must mention the names of those who sent articles for the work, either to me or for any one needing them: Junior A. C. F's of Worcester, Mass. Juniors of Unadilla Forks, N. Y. (my father's birth-place). Mission band, Honey Creek, Wis. Letters and articles from three little girls in South Dakota (I am hoping they will get replies to their letters). Very nice cards and booklets from Hattie E. Britman, Whitman, Mass. A nice box from Cheshire. Boxes of thread, etc., from the King's Workers, Minneapolis. Something from Houlton, Me. Cards with pictures, written texts, and names of seventeen children of the Oshtemo S. S., Kalamazoo, Mich. One dolly with a charming letter fastened under her skirt-band, comes from Reba Bassett, Unadilla Forks. Four rolls of the large S. S. pictures, nicely mounted on cloth, besides other articles, come from Pascoag, R. I. The ladies auxiliary of Littleton, N. H., sent a box of nice things as daintily packed as Huntley and Palmer's biscuits. I am sure Mildred Dennett and her brother of Pascoag must be good children, they not only have so many nice books given them, but seem always ready to pass them along for some one else to enjoy. If any who sent have not found an acknowledgment here, they may get it yet in letters from some of the rest of our folks out here, or better still in a letter all to themselves, though I am sure you would rather we spent our time in our work than in writing to every one of the many who sent something.

Yours very cordially,

HATTIE P. PHILLIPS.

FEBRUARY AND JUNE, 1893.

A NUMBER of copies of the MISSIONARY HELPER of the above dates are needed by the publisher. Will all persons who have copies of these dates, that they do not wish to keep, please forward them at once, and confer a favor on the magazine. Address

MRS. ELLA H. ANDREWS,
122 Vinton St., Providence, R. I.

"WHOEVER teaches a child to love the truth is the friend of God."

AN ADVENTUROUS VOYAGE.

[Letter from Miss Coombs.]

MIDNAPORE, INDIA, Jan. 21, 1896.

DEAR FRIENDS: I believe I sent you a letter just as we were leaving London, and it may be you would care to know how we fared during the rest of our journey. We had a very pleasant time after we were once past the Bay of Biscay, but O that bay! The remembrance of crossing it thirteen years ago had stayed with me all these years as a nightmare, but at that time the storm we encountered was only for one night, while this one was for three nights, and we were two days late at Gibraltar, having gone so far off our course during the storm. The rolling of the steamer was fearful. The piano in the first-class saloon was wrenched from its fastenings and thrown down, falling on a lady who had been tossed from her chair at the same time, and who was so seriously hurt as to be unable to leave her bed for nearly the whole voyage. Nearly everybody was sick and miserable during these days, and the fact of the portholes and hatches being closed did not make us any more comfortable. We were indeed rejoiced when the weather cleared and we could be given more air and could crawl out on deck. I was ready to vow that I would never cross the Bay of Biscay again, but would surely go across the continent by train, although it might be considerably more expensive. We had a little more rough weather in the Bay of Bengal, but nothing serious, and the greater part of the journey was delightfully pleasant.

We called at Gibraltar, Naples, Port Said, Ismalia, Aden, Colombo, and Madras, but Miss Phillips and I went on shore only at Naples and Colombo. The day at Naples was one to be remembered a lifetime. A guide from one of the many excursionists' firms came on board, and a party was soon made up, which we joined, and spent the day in being shown about Naples and in visiting Pompeii. The view of Naples from the bay is charming and picturesque, but to be charmed with Naples one must see it *only* from the bay. To drive through its narrow streets and see its poverty and dirt is to dispel any charm which poetry or romance may have thrown around it. There are grand and palatial sections, to be sure, but the poorer quarters seemed the bulk of the city.

The visit to Pompeii with smoking Vesuvius in sight all the way was like a dream, and it was hard to believe that I myself was actually walking the streets of that long buried city about which I had read from my childhood, but always with the feeling that it was another world, or utterly a myth.

Now here I was, hurrying after our guide to catch his explanations in broken English of the high stepping-stones across the narrow streets, the drinking-trough with its water-pipe leading to it, the handmills for grinding corn and grain, ranges made of masonry for baking, large jars set in masonry for holding wine,

capacious marble baths arranged for privacy and also for effective cleanliness, the hall of justice, the theater, place for sacrifices, and so on and on through roofless rooms, down narrow passages, past solitary pillars, lingering to note this or that of peculiar interest in painting, statuary, or ornamentation, and then hurrying and scurrying to keep up with the party, till our aching limbs told us it was no dream but a very real thing that we were "doing" Pompeii in an hour and a half, when we could leisurely spend a whole day with interest and profit had we the time. Just before leaving, we were taken to a museum in which are kept articles of interest which have been found in the process of excavating—jars, locks, lamps, boxes, keys, coins, pieces of cloth, bread, etc. ; but that which made the deepest impression of the day was the exhumed bodies of men and women kept in glass cases there, in just the postures they were found as they met death centuries ago—some of them as if in fear or pain, others as if sleeping. The most hideous of all was that of a dog dreadfully twisted on itself, and which seemed even to be biting its own leg. These bodies were covered with a conglomerate which seemed to be made up of cinders, earth, and pumice-stone. The excavations are still going on, and one of the most beautiful houses we saw was called "the new house," because more lately brought to light. While there we passed a party of excavators taking their noonday rest.

In Colombo there was little of special interest, though all agreed the drives were beautiful. As we passed the cinnamon gardens our driver broke off several twigs from the shrubs there, and as we crushed the leaves and caught the odor we could understand something of the "spicy breezes" "that blow soft o'er Ceylon's isle."

Shortly after leaving London we found there were five other lady missionaries on board, and we had Bible readings together, and one Sunday evening a missionary meeting on deck ! This last seemed quite an undertaking, but we were helped and believe it did good. At Colombo six other missionaries came on board, five from Australia and one from China, so our band was increased, our courage strengthened, and considerable personal missionary work was attempted, with what results only He who knows the hearts of men can determine.

We reached Calcutta Dec. 13, where Miss Phillips stayed with her mother for a time, and I came on to Midnapore after a stop of four or five days. After having crossed oceans and seas and that dreadful Bay of Biscay, with its wild storm, in safety, it was left me to be wrecked in the peaceful waters of the Midnapore canal while the stars were shining brightly !

The canal steamer is small and the accommodations for first-class passengers limited, for there are not usually more than one or two of this class, and oftener none, but this time it happened there were seven of us, four ladies and three

gentlemen ; so a smaller boat, called a *bholio*, was attached for the ladies, which was towed behind the steamer, and on this we were put, and all our baggage, which was quite heavy. Miss Butts was with me, having come to Calcutta while I was there, and about ten o'clock, after we had laid down for the night, she discovered that our boat was filling with water, and then such a screaming, scrambling, hurrying, shouting, and pulling as there was to get us and our things on the steamer before we sank ! It seemed not more than ten minutes from the time we were aroused till the *bholio* was resting on the bottom of the canal with only the top of her cabins showing above the water. Many of our things were left in the cabins, but all were eventually recovered in a more or less damaged condition, for which damages the company afterward compensated us. The theory of the disaster was that the *bholio* was overloaded. It was an uncomfortable experience, but might have been so much worse that I was continually thankful.

On arriving in Midnapore I had a most cordial welcome both from the missionaries and the native Christians. The former now consist of Mr. and Mrs. Hallam (living in the house where Mr. and Mrs. Miner did live) and "Dr. Mary" and Miss Butts, living in the "Bachelor house," with whom I have taken up my abode.

Since coming I have had the privilege of helping in the preparations for Christmas with the Christian community, and on New Year's for the ragged schools. After this was over I went with Miss Butts out to Palasbani—twenty miles to the west—to visit a few scattered Christians, examine some schools, and give them all a little Christmas joy. How those Christians did enjoy having some one come to talk and pray with them ! These little bands do need shepherding.

Returning from this trip I went to Calcutta again to look after all those boxes, which had just arrived from Liverpool by another line from that on which we came from London. The story of the getting of those boxes through the custom-house and post commissioner's office, past the jetty superintendent and gatekeeper, would be a long one of itself, and before that work was done I was half inclined to wish I had never put those requests in the home papers for help for the work, or that our people had not been so good to respond. However it was accomplished at last, and they were sent on their different ways—to Chandbali, Balasore, and Midnapore—but I fear it could not have been done without the kind help of Mr. Henderson of Calcutta (Bro. Griffin's son-in-law) and of Bro. Coldren, who came just in time to "lend a hand."

Since returning to Midnapore and unpacking the boxes sent here I have felt to thank the many, many friends for their generous response to those requests,

and for the abundance and variety of articles sent. I hope to write many personal letters of thanks to those whose addresses I have found among the packages, but on many I could find no address, and will here ask all those who sent from places mentioned below,* to accept our hearty thanks, and be assured that the things they have sent will help in carrying on our work and lighten our perplexities next Christmas-time.

I am very glad to be back in the work and to find there are parts which I can take from hands overburdened, and places waiting to be filled into which I can step.

LAVINA C. COOMBS.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

HAVE *you* sent in the names of persons to whom you would like to have a copy of the May issue of HELPER sent? The plan, as outlined last month, is to issue an extra large number of copies in May, and send a sample copy to as many persons who are not—but ought to be—subscribers to the HELPER as we can secure addresses of. We must depend on friends in local Quarterly Meetings and churches to supply the addresses. Send a long list at once, that we may know just how many copies to print.

Whenever a subscriber fails to receive the current number of the HELPER, notice should be at once sent to the publisher. Sometimes omissions occur in mailing, and we have no way of knowing it unless notified by the subscriber.

A few more of the pleasant things that have been said of our improved HELPER must be given to our readers:

I am glad to say the HELPER is growing better and better each month. I am proud of this number, it is an especial inspiration to Michigan women. I feel sure that now we have seen Dr. Mary face to face we shall do better work for her support, and for the dear, ever indispensable HELPER.—*Mrs. Frances Kies.*

I think the MISSIONARY HELPER is just lovely now, inside and out, through and through.—*Mrs. F. K. Chase.*

The HELPER is attractive in its new form, and a very helpful magazine; surely worthy of a much larger patronage, but as all good things grow in favor by being known, so we will hope for a wider appreciation of our own loved magazine.—*Miss Ellen Millett.*

Just enough of criticism has been received to be an inspiration and keep us humble.

ELLA H. ANDREWS, *Publishing Agent*,
122 Vinton St., Providence, R. I.

* *Maine*—East Corinth, Garland, Blaine, Gardiner, West Paris, Bargor, Lisbon, West Falmouth, Steep Falls, Bath, Brunswick, Bowdoinham, Charleston, W. Whitefield. *New Hampshire*—Whitfield, Concord, Gonic, Somersworth, New Market. *Massachusetts*—Adamsdale, Taunton, Somerville, Amesbury, Haverhill, Lynn. *Connecticut*—So. Killingly. *Rhode Island*—Foster, Providence. *Ohio*—Marion, Morral, Cleveland. *New York*—Poland.—*Michigan*—Manton, Sparta, Kingston, Burnett, Hillsdale, Ortonville, Chapel, Reading. *Minnesota*—Winona. *Wisconsin*—Burnett. *Pennsylvania*—Marshfield. *Kansas*—Horton. *Nebraska*—Lincoln. *Texas*—Dallas, Tuske, N. S. Prairie Farm.—L. C. C.

[Other places and people are referred to Miss Phillips's letter.—EDITOR.]

Helps for Monthly Meetings.

MAY.—SIXTH THANK-OFFERING SERVICE.

SUGGESTIVE PROGRAM.

1. Service of song.
2. The 100th Psalm in unison.
3. Invocation—the Lord's Prayer.
4. Singing. Collection of T. O. envelopes.
5. Prayer—for the presence of the Holy Spirit in the meeting, and that all hearts may be receptive to its influence.
6. Responsive exercise :
 - Leader.* Exhortation to rejoice, pray, and give thanks. *Response.*
1 Thess. 5 : 16-18.
 - Leader.* Exercise of faith. *Response.* 1 Thess. 5 : 8 ; 1 Cor. 16 : 13.
love. *Response.* Matt. 22 : 37-40.
trust. *Response.* Prov. 29 : 35 ; Ps. 37 : 5.
 - Leader.* Extent of the field. *Response.* Matt. 13 : 38.
 - Leader.* The workers : who? *Response.* 2 Cor. 6 : 1 ; Matt. 28 :
19, 20 ; 2 Cor. 5 : 20.
7. Prayer—thankful recognition of God's leading thus far ; for the success attained, and that a broader conception of what it really means to be "co-workers with God " may be brought home to all our hearts.
8. Select illustrative reading.
9. Solo or duet.
10. Reading the texts found in the envelopes.
11. Report amount of offering. Remarks.
12. Prayer—that God will help us to realize the wonderful opportunities for service, which are to-day ours as never before, in the many thousands who are thronging our land from foreign countries, with no knowledge of God or his blessed Gospel. May our whole Zion awake to her high privilege, and "work while it is called to-day, for the night cometh wherein no man can labor !"
13. Singing, "Blest be the tie that binds."
14. Benediction.
 - "IN MEMORIAM."
 - "God's finger touched them, and they slept."
1. Chant, "The Reaper and the Flowers."
2. Scripture selections, John 14 : 2, 3 ; 1 Pet. 1 : 4, 5 ; Rev. 7 : 17.

3. Brief remarks upon the lives of those who have passed out from our midst.
4. Chant, "One sweetly solemn thought."
5. Benediction.

REMARKS.—The call for the sixth annual thank-offering meeting of our society appeared in the March HELPER. It is earnestly hoped that all will hold the meeting during the month of May, selecting the date most convenient for the local church.

Suggestions.—Appropriate selections for readings may be found in this issue of the HELPER, and in all back numbers sketches of our missionaries, of the work generally in its continuous enlargement, and the funds in trust for its needs. Our HELPER, and other departments of our W. M. Society. Poems also.

To carry out a program successfully begin the work early, choose your committee to attend to the details. Send to Mrs. Clara E. Schwarz, 492 Pine St., Providence, R. I., for the circular invitations and envelopes for the offerings; fill out, fold, enclose in a large envelope, and be sure every woman of your church and congregation receives one. They are *free* and will be furnished in any number needed. *Place your order early.*

This thank-offering should be made extra and special by the individual, and not take the place of the systematic pledges, yet it may be applied toward the amounts pledged by the state societies. It is hoped Yearly Meetings, Quarterly Meetings, and auxiliary officers will so co-operate in the plan, devising ways and means, that the meetings may be more generally held than heretofore.

While the programs are only "suggestive," yet it is hoped the general plan may be adopted with much earnest prayer that it may be to all a blessing; inspiring to a deeper realization of our personal responsibility to help to fulfil the command to "go" teach all "nations."

Any sister so situated that she cannot respond from her church may still be sure of the blessing by observing the service, and sending her offering direct to our treasurer, Miss Laura A. DeMeritte, Dover, N. H.

For the first time a brief "In Memoriam" program is appended. We love to think and speak of those of our members who have "gone on," and it seems fitting that we thus remember those who were with us at our last annual thank-offering service, but to-day "they are not." This has been the custom in some auxiliaries from the first.

This program is also "suggestive" only, and can be changed as desired.

CLARA A. RICKER,	} Committee.
SUSAN A. PORTER,	
CAROLINE C. SWAN,	
EMELINE B. CHENEY,	

Practical Christian Living.

Practical Christian living should illuminate parlor and kitchen, purify politics, open the pocket-book, and save the world.

GIVING.

BY JULIA A. EATON.

FROM whence are all the blessings
That come to us each day?
Who gives us food and raiment
And guides us on our way?
Who gives us rain and sunshine,
Who gives us home and friends,
Who gives us time and talents,
And gold and silver lends?
'Tis God the loving Father
Supplieth all our needs;
He cares for all his children
And e'en the sparrow feeds.
Yea, he hath also given
His Son to die for all,
And freely grants his pardon
To those who heed his call.

Meredith, N. H.

The debt of love we owe him
We never can repay;
But we should prove we're grateful
For blessings day by day.
The tenth of all our portion
Seems but a meager share
To give to God our Father
For all his loving care.
With hearts both true and loyal
We'll better things devise,
And gladly give to Jesus
The gifts we highest prize.
The blessedness of giving
We then shall fully know,
We'll give our lives to Jesus
Because we love him so.

AUNT ZANIE'S PRAYER.

"COME in," said Miss Peck, the missionary, in response to a knock at her door, the morning after hearing a stirring appeal for Africa's needs.

The door opened and revealed a neat little brown-faced woman, in clean calico gown and long gingham apron, her head wrapped in a plaid cotton bandanna. The face wore a troubled expression so unusual that the missionary exclaimed, "Why, Aunt Zanie, what's the matter? Come in."

"No, honey, I hasn't time to come in; just stopped a minute to ask you to pray to de Lo'd dat he show me how to do mo' fo' Africa."

The missionary grasped the situation. Aunt Zanie was poor. On her arm hung the implements by which she earned a living for herself and a little grandchild—a wooden pail in which she carried scrubbing brush and cloths. She was noted for honesty, thrift, piety, and generosity. Never was a good cause presented and a collection taken but what Aunt Zanie, with quick step and beaming face, was ready with her offering. Everybody who knew her wondered how she could give so much.

"O Aunt Zanie, don't be troubled! The dear Lord knows what you can give, and he does not wish you to grieve because you cannot do more. I am sure you give enough."

"Sister Peck, I didn't come dis mo'nin' to have you tell me I do 'nuff; I jes come to ask you to pray to de Lo'd dat he show me how I can give mo'."

"Well, well, Aunt Zanie, I will; and, if there's any way, I'm sure the Lord will make it plain to you."

The little woman turned and went on her way to her daily toil. Several days passed, and again Aunt Zanie appeared at the door of the missionary home, this time with beaming face, to say, "Good mo'nin', Sister Peck. I's come to tell you the Lo'd done answer prayer."

"How, Aunt Zanie?"

"Well, Sister Peck, I jes went about all dese days with a heavy heart, a-prayin' to de Lo'd to show me how to do something mo' fo' Africa. But 'pears like he dunno no way, fo' not a bit of answer did he give me. But last night I came home from my wo'k, and I jes set my ole bucket on de flo', and I kneeled down by a cha'r, and I poured out my heart to de Lo'd, and I said, 'O Lo'd, isn't der no way I can do somethin' mo' fo' Africa?' For a long time I prayed, then I stopped, and everything was jes as still, and I heard a voice speak right to my heart, 'Zanie, child, lay down that pipe!'"

Aunt Zanie had learned to smoke that pipe when she was a little slave girl, lighting the pipe for her mistress, and now she had passed her threescore years, and for a long, long time it had been her one personal indulgence, her one luxury. Is there any wonder that the missionary asked:

"Aunt Zanie, do you think you can?"

"If de Lo'd say so," was the wondering response.

"Yes, Aunt Zanie; if the Lord says so, he will enable you."

Again the blessed little woman was gone, and again days went by, until one morning she came to the missionary, and, laying twenty-five cents in her hand, exclaimed joyfully, "Here Sister Peck, here's Aunt Zanie's first 'bacco money for Africa."

The days have grown into years since we gazed upon that bit of silver in Miss Peck's hand and heard her tell this story, but from then until now Aunt Zanie's tobacco money has been conscientiously and joyously devoted to the noble purpose of sending gospel light into dark places.

Reader, do you hear the repeated calls for help? Are you doing all you can to relieve the needy? Have you a pipe? Some carnal pleasure? Some cherished indulgence? Can you give it up, and let the Lord use the money it costs? Will you?

Do you pray, dare you pray, as did Aunt Zanie, with honest purpose to obey, "Lord, show me how to give more?" Then wait upon him as she did, with strong pleadings for the answer, and "whatsoever He saith unto you, do it."

When Christians thus pray and thus give, then will the treasury overflow, sowers and reapers be multiplied, deserts bloom, parched ground become a pool, and thirsty land springs of water. How does the sacrifice compare with the bloom? Will you lay down your pipe?—*Selected.*

THE May number of the MISSIONARY HELPER will contain portrait and sketch of Miss L. C. Coombs, also an interesting program for children's day.

Words from Home Workers.

VERMONT.—The W. M. S. of the Wheelock Q. M. held its meeting, in connection with the Q. M. at St. Johnsbury, on Saturday P. M. Jan. 25, when the following interesting program, conducted by Mrs. G. C. Waterman, was carried out: Reading of Scripture and prayer by Mrs. Belle Smith; singing by a quartette of young ladies; a visit to India, by means of a map, by a class of young girls; reading of reports in December HELPER from Mrs. Smith, Miss Scott, and Miss Barnes; a paper by Mrs. Bacheler in regard to Mrs. H. Phillips; question-box conducted by Mrs. Waterman, who also made an appeal for the HELPER. Collection, \$3.77.

MRS. E. M. CAMPBELL, Sec.

Lyndon Center.

MICHIGAN.—A memorial meeting for Dr. J. L. Phillips was held in the Hillsdale College church Sunday evening, Jan. 19. This had been planned for two months before, but circumstances had prevented its being held. There was a large attendance; all seemed interested to hear of the early life of that great and good Christian man, as well as of his later work. Pres. and Mrs. Mosher spoke of his college work in this country, and the missionary and S. S. work in India. Mrs. A. M. Lord spoke of his earnest Christian life and the great, almost irreparable, loss to the world of such a life; she read extracts from a letter from his wife, written a few days after his death. Rev. C. H. Myers drew lessons from his life that were helpful to us all. A recitation by Miss Carrie Ashbaugh from an India magazine was very applicable to the occasion. The question is, on whom will his mantle fall? A letter just received from India speaks of Mrs. Phillips as a brave little woman bearing her loss so wonderfully. The writer says of Dr. Phillips, "I think I never knew, till I knew him in India, what a noble and Christlike man he was."

MRS. N. K. HILL, Sec.

Mrs. G. D. Lockwood, treasurer of the *Batavia*, Mich.. W. M. S. for the year ending Jan. 1, 1896, furnishes the following gratifying financial statement of the year's work in the auxiliary: Cash on hand at beginning of the year \$15.20, membership dues received \$38.50, offerings of visitors \$18.18, useful and fancy articles sold \$18.57, collections at public meetings \$11.55, receipts of the year \$86.80; total \$102. The annual report of the secretary records 11 regular meetings held at the homes of different members, and one thank-offering and one annual public service held in the church. Aggregate membership attendance 317, with an average of 26; aggregate attendance of visitors 225, average of 18. Our dearly beloved sister, Mrs. Sarah E. Lockwood, was called to heaven Oct. 19, 1895. Four new members have united with the society during the year, and

the present enrolment numbers 54. The largest attendance at any regular meeting was 78. Each meeting has been opened by devotional services, in the form of singing, scripture reading, prayer, biblical roll-call responses, concert exercises of the Psalms, sentence prayers, etc. It is wonderful what a refining, elevating, and benign influence has gone out in our midst through the means of the W. M. S., and it has proved a blessed adjunct to the little home church. The work committee, aided by both members and many kindly visitors, have been the financial props of the society. Sister J. M. Gray, superintendent of literary work, and her capable assistants, have furnished at each meeting suitable missionary programs that well filled the allotted time. A society innovation is the recently started missionary library, several books having been purchased by society funds and others by personal collections raised. The number of MISSIONARY HELPERS taken in the society is increasing, and likewise is a corresponding interest in its contents observed. This auxiliary was fortunately one of the ten societies in Michigan which were favored with a visit from our general treasurer, Miss L. A. DeMeritte, accompanied by the state W. M. S. missionary, Miss Lizzie Moody of Hillsdale. They came to us at the November meeting, and their wise words of counsel and advice were like an inspiration, lending impetus to the work. The society heartily thanks the brethren in that they have so nobly aided and cheered this band of Christian women. A tribute of heartfelt appreciation is also due to our beloved president, Sister C. H. Austin, and vice-president, Sister E. M. Jordan, whose consecrated labors have contributed much to the prosperity of the organization during the past year. MRS. E. C. MINTLINE, *Cor. Sec.*

PENNSYLVANIA.—The Free Baptist W. M. S. of the Tioga Co. Q. M. convened with the Wellsboro church Feb. 1. This being the annual meeting, there was a business session Saturday at 1.30 P. M. called to order by the president. Mrs. Mary A. Warrener led in prayer. The following officers were elected: Mrs. O. A. Smith president, Miss Nellie Butler secretary, Mrs. J. C. Warren treasurer. In the evening there was a public meeting. Several good papers were read, and recitations by the children and adults were well rendered. Ministers present, Rev. J. C. Warren and Rev. R. M. Cloud. Collection and membership dues amounted to between twelve and thirteen dollars. We are trying to introduce the MISSIONARY HELPER into every church in this Q. M. Would be glad if we could induce every F. B. family to take it. The sisters are taking hold of the mission work with more zeal, and we hope to do good work for the Master the coming year. Let us not cease praying in faith for this work.

Marshfield.

MRS. O. A. SMITH.

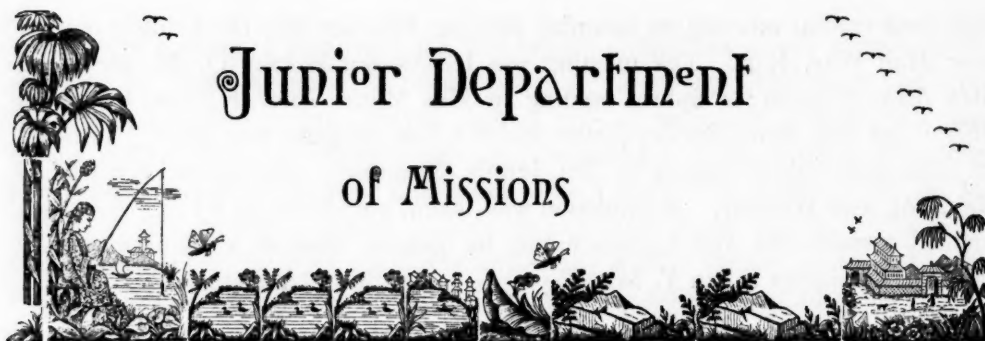
KANSAS.—The W. M. S. in connection with the Cloud and Republic Q. M

held their regular meeting on Saturday evening, Feb. 22, with the Summit church near Half Way, Kan. The meeting was led by our worthy Q. M. president, Mrs. Adda Clayton ; scripture reading by Mrs. Maria Slater, followed by prayer offered by Mrs. Mary Beesley ; after which a fine program was given, consisting of recitations, select reading by Mrs. Jennie Thompson, singing, and remarks by Rev. Mr. Van Wormer. A collection was taken, amounting to \$3.63, which was applied towards the \$50 apportionment for general mission work asked of the different auxiliaries in our Y. M.

MRS. ATHA ASHLEY, *Sec.*

MASSACHUSETTS.—Feb. 19, 1896, the W. M. Society of the Mass. Asso. convened with the Boston church. The meeting opened at 3 P. M. by singing "Blest be the tie that binds." President then read from Jesus' sayings as recorded in Matt. 28 : 18-20. She spoke about the last great commission he gave his disciples to go into all the world and carry the Gospel to every nation ; assuring them of his abiding presence, and offered a fervent prayer for God's blessing upon our workers and the interests so dear to our hearts. Mrs. Pierce of Boston sang a solo appropriate for the occasion. Miss Etta Costellow followed with a paper on "Woman's Relation to Mission Work," showing us how much we are indebted to the Gospel for the blessings we are enjoying to-day, of which the women of India and other heathen lands are deprived. Because women best understand women's needs, and the homes of India were only accessible to women, were some of the reasons given why women should be especially interested in this work. A carefully prepared paper on "The Annual Thank-offering," by Mrs. Annie A. Howard of Melrose, called attention to the near approach of the time when we shall again observe it, and to the blessings to be received from participation in it. She plead earnestly that every one of our churches have a share in this expression of gratitude to our loving Father for blessings bestowed upon us during the year. Collection was then taken amounting to \$8.87. Mrs. E. P. Moulton gave a short talk on the "MISSIONARY HELPER, urging us strongly to try and take the number assigned to our several churches. Business meeting followed, reading the records of last meeting, report from two auxiliaries, and report of visit to the R. I. Yearly Meeting ; after which Mrs. Hooper, visiting delegate from R. I., was introduced. She spoke in a graceful manner of the tribute paid the R. I. women by our delegate, of the pleasure this correspondence afforded, and briefly told us something of their state work and its methods. Voted to send \$10 to our treasurer, Miss DeMeritte, for general work. Voted that Mrs. Way of Worcester be vice-president to fill the vacancy caused by Mrs. Mosher's removal. MARY A. KNOWLTON, *Rec. Sec.*

144 Bellingham St., Chelsea.



Junior Department of Missions

HOW SITU LED THE WAY.

II.

As soon as they reached their home the poor heathen mother hurried to the temple with her offering of rice and fruit.

But Patna Tal grew worse instead of better, and the cruel fever burned all the time hotter and hotter in his veins.

Tender-hearted little Situ carried her offering too, but it did no good.

But Situ did more than make an offering to the gods. This she did because her mother commanded her, but she also prayed in secret to the dear Saviour of whom she had heard at the mission school to make her brother well.

After she had prayed a strange thought came to the child. She said not a word, but drawing her *chuddar* about her head and shoulders she ran with swift feet toward the mission school. There she told her story to the teacher, and in another hour the good missionary doctor was bending over Patna Tal, while the mother looked on with trembling hope.

The sick boy began to mend very soon, and in a few days was able to sit up. He had grown very gentle to Situ, and loved to have her sing to him.

Day after day she sat at his side and sang her sweet songs about Jesus and his love to the weak boy. The father and mother too would come near and listen, the father seeming to forget that he had commanded Situ to sing no more.

The doctor came in one morning and heard Situ singing, "The great Physician now is near," and when she had finished her song he knelt without a word and thanked the good Physician for making Patna Tal well again.

Patna Tal is well now, and goes to the mission school for boys, while Situ is learning new songs and Bible verses in her own dear school. And that is not all, the father and the mother are beginning to pray to the true God.

Do you belong to a mission band, little friend? If not, do you not think it time to help on such good work?—*M. V. M., in Sunday School Advocate.*

"If we have no trials we have little fellowship with Christ."

A SOLDIER IN A MITE-BOX.

LITTLE Donald was amusing himself with rhymes while he was being dressed in the nursery. In the next room mother sat vainly striving to understand the lines which were being repeated over and over again. At last Donald was dressed, and came to say "Good-morning" to mother, who asked, "What was it you were saying, Donald?"

"Only a little verse, mother."

"But what was it, Donald. Mother would like to hear it too."

"I had a little soldier
No bigger than my thumb,
I put him in my mite-box,
And there I bid him drum."

"But he didn't make any noise, mother, because there wasn't any money in the mite-box."—*Selected.*

Contributions.

F. B. WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Receipts for February, 1896.

MAINE.

Alfred N. B. Jordan	\$2.00
Alfred D. Jordan	1.00
Anson Q. M. L. M. in Me. W. M. S. of Mrs. W. W. Hayden	6.00
Bath "Juniors" North St. F. B. ch. for Miss Barnes's salary	12.00
Cumberland Q. M. col. for Mid. work	4.00
Cumberland Q. M. col. for Miss Baker's salary	12.50
Dover Mrs. N. W. Whitcomb on account F. M. pledge and on L. M. of Me. W. M. S.	3.00
Dover and Foxcroft aux.	2.00
E. Hebron aux.	2.00
For Fairfield aux. for Miss Coombs and L. M. in Me. W. M. S. of Mrs. Carrie Chandler	10.00
Gray ch. Miss Baker's salary	1.00
Greene aux. for Miss Coombs's salary	9.00
Hallowell a friend W. M. S.	5.00
Lewiston Mrs. S. B. Stevens W. M. S.	1.00
Lewiston Mrs. E. Witherell	1.00
Lewiston Mrs. N. J. Brackett	1.00
Lewiston Main St. ch. aux.	12.24
Madison Bridge Mrs. O. E. Savage's S. S. class	9.00
New Portland 1st ch. aux. F. M.	2.00
No. Lebanon aux. to complete L. M. in Me. W. M. S. of Mrs. J. B. Stevens	6.00
Portland 1st F. B. ch. aux. special offering for G. F. Mrs. O. W. Fullam	5.00
Portland 1st F. B. ch. aux. special offering for G. F. Mrs. R. McCrindle	5.00
Portland 1st F. B. ch. aux. special offering for G. F. Mrs. L. S. Washburn	1.00
Portland 1st F. B. ch. aux. special offering for G. F. col.	1.00
Portland 1st F. B. ch. aux. for Midnapore work and on L. M. in gen. soc. of Mrs. S. H. Jose	12.00
Portland "Whatsoever Circle of King's Daughters" for support of Onno Bhimpore.	12.00
Springvale "Babies Band" for Santal work	9.05
So. Windham aux. for Midnapore work	2.50

So. Parsonsfield aux. for ragged school	\$18.00
Saco F. B. ch. aux. for Lydia Durgin in India and L. M. in gen. W. M. S. of Miss Mary Billings	20.00
Saco F. B. ch. for F. M.	2.74
Saco F. B. ch. for H. M.	.40
W. Buxton for Balasore work	3.00
York Co. Q. M. aux.	9.66

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Alton Mary F. Evans	1.00
Belknap Asso. col.	6.79
Bristol for F. M. Mrs. S. J. Weed	1.00
Bristol for F. M. Mrs. J. W. Sanborn	1.00
Bristol for F. M. Mr. and Mrs. D. Calley	5.00
Center Sandwich aux. for Miss Butts and Ind. Dept.	6.00
Danville aux.	10.00
Dover aux. Wash. St. ch.	4.00
Dover Broadway F. B. ch. Abbie V. Winkley for W. M. S.	1.00
Gonic aux.	4.00
Gonic A. F. C. E. Juniors for Miss Barnes	1.00
Laconia Dr. R. W. Wiley	10.00
Lakeport Mrs. L. Stewart	1.00
Lakeport W. M. S.	16.75
Lakeport a friend	5.00
New Hampton a friend for W. M. S.	3.00
Rochester aux. True Memorial ch. for school Balasore 1895	13.54
W. Lebanon, Me. aux.	20.00
Whitefield W. M. S.	6.00
Wolfeboro Falls W. M. aux.	8.00
Kittery Point, Me. Mrs. H. C. Frisbie	.50
Kittery Point Mrs. J. M. Graham	1.00

VERMONT.

Albany ch.	2.00
Enosburgh Falls aux. Mrs. Smith's salary	5.00
Hardwick for Mrs. Smith's salary	2.50
Huntington Q. M. for Mrs. Smith's salary	3.35
Jonesville Mrs. Algers for Mrs. Smith's salary	1.00

Lyndon Center aux.	\$10.50
Middlesex A. A. Cummings for Mrs. Smith's salary	1.05
Morrisville Mrs. J. Robie for Mrs. Smith's sal.	5.00
No. Tunbridge F. B. ch.	7.15
S. Strafford aux. for Mrs. Smith's salary	5.00
Waterbury Mrs. L. S. Lougee for Mrs. Smith's salary	1.50
Wheelock Q. M. col.	3.77

MASSACHUSETTS.

Dorchester Mrs. H. C. Perkins for W. M. S.	2.00
Haverhill aux. for S. O.	20.00
Massachusetts Asso. W. M. S.	10.00
Melrose Highlands Junior A. C. F. for one share Miss Barnes's salary	4.00
Wellesley Olive S. Bean	2.00

RHODE ISLAND.

Arlington aux. Ind. Dept.	4.00
Arlington C. E. Soc. Beebee Phillips's salary	4.00
Blackstone aux. Ind. Dept.	5.00
Blackstone C. E. Soc. Beebee Phillips's salary	5.00
Blackstone Junior C. E. Soc. Beebee Phillips's salary	2.50
Carolina aux. Hattie Phillips's salary	5.00
Elmwood Ave. aux. Ind. Dept.	3.25
Elmwood Ave. aux. Hattie Phillips's salary	3.00
Elmwood Ave. S. S. mission Beebee Phillips's salary	6.25
Elmwood Ave. C. E. Soc. Beebee Phillips's salary	5.00
Pascoag aux. Ind. Dept.	5.00
Pawtucket S. S. class to Miss Barnes (G. F.)	4.00
Pawtucket C. E. Soc. Beebee Phillips's salary	5.00
Pawtucket Junior C. E. Beebee Phillips's sal.	1.60
Providence J. L. Tourtellot	10.00
Providence G. S. Andrews zenana work to make L. M. for Miss A. L. Sunderland	25.00
Tiverton ch. Hattie Phillips's salary	7.50
Tiverton ch. Ind. Dept.	5.00
Warwick Central aux. Ind. Dept.	5.00
Warwick Central aux. Hattie Phillips's salary	5.00

CONNECTICUT.

Lakeville Mrs. M. M. Brewster	5.00
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NEW YORK.

E. Concord A. C. F.	1.50
Gibson Q. M. W. M. S. support of teacher	9.75
Spafford Q. M. for native teacher	6.00

PENNSYLVANIA.

Philadelphia a friend for Miss Barnes's salary	25.00
Tioga Co. Q. M. native teacher's fund	12.45

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Allendale Miss S. L. Moore	5.00
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INDIANA.

Noble Q. M. miss. dues.	3.65
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ILLINOIS.

Campbell Hill children's band for Miss Barnes	2.65
Campbell Hill Hattie Gordon	1.35

MICHIGAN.

Calhoun and No. Branch Q. M. for Miss Bachelor	2.25
Cook's Prairie ch. Miss Bachelor	2.00
Cook's Prairie ch. H. M.	1.29

Cook's Prairie ch. Miss Barnes	\$0.52
Cass and Berrien Q. M. W. M. S. for Miss Bachelor	5.00
Elsie aux. for Miss Bachelor	1.20
Elsie aux. for H. M.	1.20
Elsie aux. for Storer College60
Genesee Q. M. W. M. S. Miss Bachelor	5.06
Genesee Q. M. W. M. S. for H. M.	1.35
Hillsdale Q. M. W. M. S. Miss Bachelor	23.75
Hillsdale Q. M. W. M. S. for H. M.	6.41
Holton and White River Q. M. Miss Bachelor	1.25
Lansing Q. M. W. M. S. Miss Bachelor50
Lansing Q. M. W. M. S. for H. M.80
Lansing Q. M. W. M. S. for Storer College40
No. Reading miss. band, Miss Bachelor	3.00
Oxford Q. M. Miss Bachelor	1.50
Oxford Q. M. for H. M.	1.50
Oxford Q. M. for Storer College76
Salem Nettie Marsh30
St. Joseph River aux. S. O.	2.25
Sparta Center aux.	3.75
Summerville and Pokagon miss. band for Miss Barnes	4.00
Union aux. for Miss Bachelor	7.00
Van Buren Q. M. W. M. S. Miss Bachelor	5.64
Van Buren Q. M. W. M. S. for H. M.	1.76
Van Buren Q. M. W. M. S. for Storer College	2.13

IOWA.

Aurora aux. for Miss Scott's salary	2.50
Black Hawk and Buchanan Q. M.	5.36
Dunkerton S. S.	3.00
Fairbank aux.	5.50
Fairbank children band56
Fairbank Y. P. S. C. E.	3.00
Lamont church	2.00

MINNESOTA.

Brainard S. S. birthday box for Miss Barnes's salary	5.00
Brainard aux. for Storer College	6.00
Champlain F. B. W. M. S.	12.50
Crystal aux. F. M.	2.20
Huntley Rufus Johnson for F. M.	25.00
Minneapolis Mrs. H. Ingham	25.00
Minneapolis aux. for F. M.	10.00
Nashville aux. for F. M.	10.00
Nashville aux. for Storer College	10.00
Nashville Center birthday box for G. F. for F. M.	4.05
Winnebago City aux. for H. M.	5.00
Winnebago City aux. for F. M.	5.00

KANSAS.

Cloud and Republic Q. M.	3.60
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NEBRASKA.

Lincoln Miss Shirley Smith	5.00
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PROVINCE OF QUEBEC.

Montreal Mrs. D. W. Moulton for Mrs. Smith's salary	1.00
Sherbrook Fannie R. Moulton for "Emily"	9.00

Total \$848.57

LAURA A. DEMERITTE, Treas.

Dover, N. H.

per EDYTH R. PORTER, Asst. Treas.

FORM OF BEQUEST.

I GIVE and bequeath the sum of ——— to the Free Baptist Woman's Missionary Society, a corporation of the state of Maine.